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Title: —

THE

HEREAFTER

—OR—

LIFE ON THE OTHER SIDE.

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By MRS. CORNELIA DEWITT.

TITUSVILLE: *Pa.*

E. C. BELL, PRINTER, 1879.

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INTRODUCTION.

This little volume was written by my son and wife through a medium of this city. My son died Dec. 29, 1861, and my wife died June 7, 1868. So the boy commences and writes his life, on the other side, up to the time of his mother's arrival; and then my wife writes to the present time. It is intended more particular for the immediate friends and relatives of our family. But should others read it out of curiosity, I hope it may be the means of opening their eyes to the beautiful life hereafter, instead of doing them an injury.

Yours Truly,

LEVI MASON.

Titusville, Pa., Nov. 10, 1879.

NOTE.

I wish to say that Mrs. DeWitt, the Spiritual Medium, who wrote this book, never knew any one of the persons whose names are mentioned as Authors, or otherwise, while they were on earth, and had no knowledge of them in any way. But merely wrote mechanically as the spirits directed her hand, and I know the above to be true.

LEVI MASON.

NARRATIVE.

It was at the close of the month of December that I was so suddenly called to this home across the dark river without a moment's warning of the sad fate I was to meet with.

Leaving my lovely home so full of mirth, and anticipating a few hours of so much pleasure before the nightfall, and with a sweet boy-like smile, went on my way with other small friends, and in a few hours there came to my parents the sad news of their son's death. A sweet mother was stricken with terrible grief, almost never to be outlived and all life and joy fled almost forever. Yet ever by her side in life stood a dear and loving husband and father, to bear gently with her the sad, sad loss of her dearest hopes.

Yet as years rolled by and I began to realize what this life was, and that I could return to the dear ones, bringing sweet comfort to those whose sorrows had weighed down their life by thoughts of one who was the favorite of so many dear friends, I felt happy.

But when this grand religion of Love manifested itself there came like a ray of sunlight such a yearning after information relative to spirit power, and like unto this day has my beloved people, father especially, been seeking through medias for a word of comfort from his son however small.

This work is but a very small part of my spirit life, yet I will give each step as I have progressed while here.

As my body lay quietly in its casket, my spirit stood bent double, as I may say, with grief on account of my dear parents, as I was taken so quick that it could not be realized until after I was laid at rest. "Dear child we know he has gone to rest happily in the grave, though cut down like a delicate flower in full bloom." So thought our many friends. Yet there I stood by the side of my casket and thought why do you mourn for me dearest mother? I am not dead, I am here in spirit. Many tears did I dry with my happy thoughts when daily visiting my dear home. I was there and did all that was so pleasant to be engaged in when in life, by a boy of fourteen years.

But when my body was laid in its resting place, then I was ushered into the glorious world of Love, and not till then. Then it was that my heart rejoiced at seeing aunts, uncles, little school mates and so many friends too numerous to mention. I almost forgot for a moment my dear ones who still lingered on the other shores waiting to catch a glimpse of some light, that they might see some emblem or token of their much loved son. But now comes that which will interest every child of the great human family, and give strength to the skeptic or unbeliever; and will greatly help to endorse all that is true and beautiful in this great and progressive world.

The first I remembered after my dreadful fall, was that I stood looking at the mass of clay that bound my spirit, while in life, and wondered why we mourn after dear friends who pass over the dark river of life. I seemed to have forgotten for some time all that had taken place, for the angels had taken me so far away, revealing to me the beautiful heavens, and joys to come, and meeting so many little friends with whom I had been so very intimate on earth, that I was perfectly enraptured. After that when the spirit extended to me the right hand of good fellowship,

then the Fathers love began to reveal itself to me. The first joyful hymn sung by the happy band of angelic messengers was,

"Dear child and brother, we welcome you to our Eternal home."

No language can ever express the enchanting music in which the song was rendered. Then one beautiful spirit delivered an address. The subject was, "God is Love."

We know He is by this beautiful dwelling place. This spirit told me of the controlling power I would be allowed and that every day I could return to my earthly home with the kind assistance of countless dear ones, and manifest my presence so that my friends could know that I lived in glory, and had a home upon a more magnificent plan. Then another hymn was sung.

"The Lord is in His holy temple,
Let angels rejoice for it is well."

Such a degree of enchantment came over my spirit that it gently soothed every pang of despair; and while in this trance a dear brother quietly came and placed in my hand a beautiful silvery harp attuned to God's high and holy praises. And ever have I been ready with its sweet chords to welcome every spirit to its dwelling place.

Most heartily and cheerfully, did my fingers move over its silvery strings, when I saw my dearest mother on these happy shores, although her departure from earth was leaving my father in great sadness, as all that was so near and dear to him in life had gone. No more did she walk in life by his side hand in hand and ready to kiss away cares and lighten toils that are the lot of every earthly being. Yet nevertheless her absence from her earthly home in the flesh, she visited it daily in the spirit, always endeavoring to cheer and guide his footsteps in the right, and try to reveal to him the perpetual joy and happiness for him in spirit land.

Of this she will speak hereafter in this little booklet, for the edification of the great family of human souls that has yet to learn the way of light and truth to the recognition of the Divine Protector.

The first sphere reached in the spirit world was said to consist of vile, wicked people, who had always been engaged in murdering, and stealing various articles. There were no bright stars, no ray of sunshine, as in the sphere where I dwell. Great trouble and weeping was seen on all their brows. In other words I may use it to express myself, "There was weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth." This is what is meant by that passage of Scripture, "for great is the punishment to sit in darkness," as those poor creatures have to do. They thought it a good and happy state, but when I looked down to earth I said, "God bless a dear kind father and mother, who watched so tenderly over their son, who can now through their endeavors go up higher and enjoy life as upon earth, only higher and more divine.

Then where is hell? will be asked by so many. My dear people could you ever enter a worse hell? Could you ever get down to perdition any lower than this? It makes my spirit tremble with fear as I go back relating this history.

Hell is what you make it, and the very same with heaven. It lies within the reach of every human being.

If you choose intemperance, bad language and everything that is degrading, lie, steal and backbite your neighbors willfully, then hell will be your first abiding place. But on the other hand if benevolence, and charity for all, and good morals crown your character, then your home will be where the never fading flowers shall perfume the air, and where angels gently bend in assurance to each other. This first sphere is the lowest place. You cannot go down to perdition any further. No eternal lake of fire awaits any

poor weary sinful heart. No damnation more than what I have given you.

Then the second sphere is where they are raised up out of the prison I spoke of, and they rejoice unspeakably to see the light; and no further do they seek the light. This is the perfected state they say. But when the angels come revealing brighter joys, they weep to see their beautiful robes covered with stars and crowns of never fading lustre upon their heads, and say in sadness for their earthly sins, "I will gladly follow after all I may learn of this blessed place." Then the messengers go daily asking the aid of the holy angels to lift them above the sinful lusts, and go on in the spiritual life. One grand eternal work of progression.

Now comes the third sphere where you see great gardens of flowers, and gold walks, and meet those of a higher and nobler nature, whose life upon earth has been more refined, and taught of God's love, and nursed in tenderness in the ways they should go. O! dear friends when I take this pencil to write, I am almost forgetful of my life, for there is so much need of teachers in this great truth that we go beyond our powers, sometimes, almost forgetting that we work in the spirit. The desires are so great that unless we are able to give positive tests and proofs upon the first or second visit to a medium, we are nothing.

This is not the fault of a medium. We are often kept back for the grand advancement of spiritual philosophy.

Should every spirit give every part relative to his, or her life, while upon earth, the people who are so short sighted would say, that guarantees us a positive proof that spiritualism is a mere humbug.

I have learned all I want to know. Notwithstanding how true they may reveal themselves to earthly friends there would, and does come following through their hearts

to-day these sayings. Were they earnest seekers in church or spiritual things, they would stand and tremble at their many wrong thoughts. They condemn many honest mediums to-day for portions of their nonsensical wishes, which are not answered by sensible spirits to the desired effect.

For us to have good comunion with this world, you must adopt yourselves to our ways and powers, and not think you will control heaven as your earth is governed. For you cannot advance the cause, but only bring yourself darkness in spirit, and be a detriment to all spiritual powers therein contained.

God has ordained this power to go so far and no farther. And as "he maketh the sun to shine upon the evil as well as the good, so will he reveal himself in due season in every good work."

He is the Almighty ruler, and will be obeyed, and unless we do as we are taught, if I may be allowed the expression, we are taken and placed for a season away from all controlling power, until we know that he rules the heavens and the earth.

There are so many different spirit opinions, and so many that exercise authority the same as upon earth, that heaven would be in the same unsettled state that your government is in to-day, should not law and order govern this eternal world?

Hence we do not punish or shut any in prisons, but all is done through the good will of every spirit. Love is the all prevailing power of government in heaven.

For God is love and teaches through love, not fear, "for perfect love casts out fear," so we are taught in the Scriptures. Could the holy Scriptures be understood in the proper way and light, there would be no room for prison walls, no call for the gallows, no call for the hangman, but it would

gild the leaves of life's book with another charm, and blot out sin and degradation.

Before spiritualism can control the world, we must have love towards all, and harmony reign supreme, and the world at large, generally speaking, must learn the way to live and exercise the very best taste for society, and cultivate every thought and action to the highest abilities given to man.

God has given light and reason to his beings, and they should not abuse any part of it, but be sober temperate men or women, and perform every good and noble work left undone by them.

God has been charitable and full of compassion towards his children, and should you not be anxious and seek diligently every ray of light that would build up your spiritual beings.

I answer, you are wasting your time, O! man or woman. There is a time for hilarity and sobriety, and so many fail to understand it until too late, then they are dashed into the eternal world without any warning, no time to mend a broken spirit, and could you see the aching hearts in this world you would say, I will use all the faculties I possess for the advancement of my spirit and to elevate and uplift me. That should I depart this life I can rise above this sin and can return with joy to cheer and endorse all truth and grandeur of the spirit world. Although in this world, as far as I know, three-fourths of the people that we call believers go through life in a careless, wicked manner, so that it requires ages of time to overcome such dispositions, as they are inclined to cling to all traits of character as in life, thus making it harder for those to advance. It is very essential to have it divided and limited in this life. The ways of life are mysterious and past finding out, and is indeed full of meaning. Could every person go at their will, it would be a curiosity shop, and nothing could ever spring forth. Yet

as I go from private gatherings and witness the different manifestations of spirit power, I wonder at countless circles getting any results whatever. For the great reason they are too inquisitive. Should I use the expression, they are going beyond man's ability and preceptions, and this makes it too small in the sight of any learned spirit to notice. Now as much as I have seen of this life as I have heretofore stated, I am amazed at the manifestations you receive. Could you not afford to give attention, charity, and good feeling to compensate the instruments who many times are so ready to give you, so far as they are able all that is within their reach. But were we to answer this question we could not in justice to either side say you are.

You often pluck that which we cherish and hold as the necessary elements for us to control, and we are crowded to one side, and other persons commune and manifest their presence.

At the circle held at this medium's last evening, had the conditions been proper, you would have seen many beauties of this world, but where all is not in harmony, there is other controlling powers which disturbs all law and order, and having to commence a gathering so often it becomes monotonous and a burden to all powerful spirits to return. So it is advisable to attend every one, and unless sickness prevents, they should consider themselves bound to our law, if they expect to receive good results. But we are not of so much importance. Sometimes as others are present, I speak not judging any particular party, but for any and all circles that have more or less the same uneasy feeling which is a detriment to them, not only on our own spiritual powers, but on their own. The field is so large there is room enough for all the laborers.

The door is open to those hearts which are truly desirous of obtaining a knowledge of their future existence, and it is

broad enough to let all pass through, gently bidding others of a higher degree to enter. Now this kind and entire stranger who feels for every gifted person, is so sensitive to intrude upon our power, and the only wish is to let those come who are good, and who will endeavor to make the best of every moment, and give those things which are the most needful. By such a disposition, she attracts those who otherwise would never return. So in all the walks of life be mild in connection with this world, believing not every spirit, but try them, and thereby you are growing in wealth of the soul. Then you will see the lillies of the valley, and the japonica in full bloom. We welcome gladly every true investigator as freely as we do friends who cross over the river. But now I must pass this by and take up more in order to relate all I wish to in a few words before others commence, which will be interesting to all. I am now in the fourth sphere. That is my dwelling place. I am bright and fair, more so, than many who passed over at that time. In many ways I had the advantages in life, as is seldom found in home teaching. Such as was instilled from babyhood up to my departure.

This is indeed a progressive age. Each fellow creature advances as time brings forth new inventions, and opens up new developments. And so it is with the inhabitants of earth. Since I passed over, great discoveries have been made. All mechanics have been enlightened, and all science been improved. Histories of the United States are far above those written half a century ago, yet at that age of your great world, every leaf of the vast books of nature revealing was full light, and what is it to day. The universe at large is progressing and what has promoted it.

I answer it has been the angel's hearts united with man's, and all the faculties and instruments that we could work upon, has been many for man. Plans for using all sorts of

chemicals such as were not known of, by learned and noble men, even a quarter of a century ago.

There is many other points of interest to be considered and as the time is limited, I am obliged to pass many of them by and have others speak of them.

I am a steady worker in the field for man's advancement. The christian churches stand to day in fear of this beautiful theory they work diligently, and every moment is devoted to their church, while the spiritualists as a rule are cold and dead to the sweet cause, if I may so freely express myself they become excited and anxious to investigate for a season, then after the cold winter, the spring cometh, and it is forgotten until some other form manifests itself to create excitement, and it has a glorious outburst again, and so on until the spiritual interest becomes weary and loses all desires to return to their loved ones.

This I do not mean is the case with all, for while the world stands to-day, three-fourths of wicked ones we cannot work with convincing powers. If they were in harmony in every thought towards each other, and seek to save all that is good, that they may be laid up for thieves not to steal from our stores.

Dear friends one and all, this is to important to neglect, now is the time to learn of your future, you have it offered to you daily and hourly, from the lowest angel fingers, up to the noblest man's intellect, and if it be rejected blame not the holy messengers from a world so pure.

Could countless people be here they would never wish to return to the sinful world, as they would see the revealings of eternity. And so it is that many do return, for they become so discouraged with the world, that their ambition leaves them for ever from returning and they retire, gently working as god has ordained upon their coming. Of all my experience on earth and in heaven I have noticed, par-

ticularly in heaven, that there is so much trouble over the poor on earth, and often wondered if it was known, when I dwelt there. I can answer, and I think correctly, that it was. But my experience had not been a stern cold teacher.

As I have looked into the lonely huts and discovered what had been with them. For out in the cold world many drooping mortals are cast; and such life never came up before my vision; and this is why I am a worker for the spiritual advancement of the human family.

This is the one great trouble we have to contend with, and when it might be lessened by the spirit controls, should every one throw their homes and hearts open to receive the living bread from the great fountain of love, heads would no longer droop, hearts no longer ache.

But also with all our spiritual endeavors we almost fail to accomplish the faintest light, but do we get weary and tired of visiting you? I answer no. Where we labor and find no reward, we go elsewhere and make ourselves known and be greeted with flowers.

As I have been with this medium, I must say farther, I should praise her wonderfully, as the many trials and duties which would claim every mother's attention, and to see the disposition so generous that the moment a particle of time is seen, she invites me here, which invitation I accept with pleasure, although many times I feel rather small for so doing. But you will understand more fully when I get able to speak, and you hear mother's melodious voice singing out words so sweet and dear to your heart, it builds up all young and tender ties almost dead to you, and makes your dear white hair glow like the sun of twenty years ago or more.

Dear friends and people this is one of the greatest privileges I ever have enjoyed since my arrival on this side in writing this small letter to my dear father, and words come

from all directions so swiftly I could use both hands and then not be able to write fast enough. Never mind the days are not far distant when Mr. Mason, Jr., will speak in public and private through this instrument.

This is quite a promise, but as the light is breaking, and you will see the angels of heaven clad in robes of living white, walk this earthly floor, and all the energies given in the same direction we can come with great additions to our controlling elements, and bring you the lillies of the valley in full bloom. Remember of course it somewhat depends upon your strength, and that all must assist, and whatever you lack we shall be strong enough to balance all, so as to produce the desired results.

The great men of to-day stand amazed at the extraordinary manifestations, as they term them, and wonder what will the world be in years to come. Then the historical writers will be lost for subjects. The clergyman will stand dumb, as to this vast controlling power, and the world will be converted. When it becomes so perfected, each will prophesy for themselves. Words will come from angels fingers writing the answers of the great and interesting questions of scientific men. The world is fast fading from the dark and superstitious views and being dressed in the golden lustre of heavenly joy. Heaven is no longer a terrible place to be called to without having been "washed in the blood of the lamb."

Hell no longer burns to the core those old school inhabitants but growing more beautiful to the dear ones of high and low estate. They say of a spiritualist, however foolish the belief may seem, how sweet it is that they can cherish such glowing truths and die shouting. O, grave where is thy sting! O, death here is our victory! and go sweetly singing glory to the great spirit who doth all things for his children's good. And we repeat that it is joy, joy, joy, over

the prodigals return in good earnest. I am rejoicing to see the converts in the spiritual belief for the past five years in this little city. When we first began this work many times did we faint, but with a fathers hand guiding us we were bid to cheer up and go on, and without a spark of shame on our side, we labored faithfully, and now to-day we can look up to him "who doeth all things" and say, "glory to God in the highest" for at last we have gained a great victory, and brought out many shining lamps of truth and beauty. Had we been left without any government we would have grown cold and indifferent, but with a brave captain we were led on until we have gained admission to earth doors and this is our reward. It has given me this opportunity of relating very briefly my life, and what I have enjoyed while here in spiritual form, it is poor but we are all poor, and must bear gently with each other, and in the "sweet bye and bye" you will see and hear more of your son, and know that it is he who was dead once but lives in beauty and holiness, and where all live and move in equality, and rejoice in this world. For lovely art thou, O, God of heaven and earth! Thoughts from a far distant land, comes floating through the air to us like the sweet perfume of the flowers, pointing out the hidden treasures of earth, and bidding every member of the universal family heed the great voice calling them to higher duties than those of the past. The star of your future points out many different views of this world. Some are radiant and full of love, others are dimmed with the clouds of disease, war, and pestilence of many forms yet to pass over before you can see clearly again in the paths of earth.

Often in the twilight hours as if to lull the sadness of the great family, there comes messengers from heaven, speaking to the weary soul, "peace be at rest, forout of war, there shall come peace and quietness, and from disease re-

covery and sweet communion with the two worlds. Though the clouds gather thickly for a season you may be able through earnest endeavors to wend your way out of all difficulties, and see the brilliant star of hope in all its splendor.

The christian masses teach by severe punishment. But dear friends, as I have assured you before, God will overcome every ill in life with charity and true benevolence, and bind the sting of despair and gloom, that it may never again appear to be a detriment to other members, to see little ones coming to earth again with childish voices, beseeching fathers and mothers, and dear friends to pluck the shining flowers they bear them, that they can give a discription of the flowers, and all that is beautiful in spirit life, as a little child may lead them. Remember you receive a blessing whenever there comes one little bud as it will expand in full perfection, and on its dewy petals you will receive the emblem of life eternal. Baskets of fruit are plucked and handed down, and the very fruits most essential for a grander perception of your heavenly father, and the beauties which surround your pathway. Angels have strewn the road with flowers, and must they wither and die for want of care and cultivation? O, no! Although it is thought by some that our spiritual lamp must soon go out and then the flowers will disappear at the approach of winter, never to spring forth at budding time. But not so, all the flowers angels hands have transferred from this divine garden above, shall never be uprooted, but shall grow into perfect trees, and the dainty flowers shall receive the gentle dews from heaven till they are perfected, and the mission of earth performed, they will sow the seed that shall bring forth fruits, ten fold to man in coming seasons, and make angels rejoice at the return of spring. O this is a beautiful season, in heaven the loved ones feel so delighted over their success thus far in the world, that no language can express their

joyfulness, and we say, "behold the lillies of the field they toil not, neither do they spin," and yet they grow in all splendor, and we rejoice over everyone whose eyes are opened to behold the wonders of spirit teaching, and do all that we can to promote and point out more clearly the way for all who are being satisfied of the truth!

My reader we go not headlong dashing you into hell or heaven in an instant, but point gradually and carefully the way to spirit communion and release you from bondage, such as you have been a slave to these many days. We come bearing love from heaven, asking you to gently bend your ear and perchance you might hear some note of the long gone friends that would wake the soul from its dreary slumbers, and receive therein one sweet strain of nature's great hymn.

Now dear friends we have given to the best of our ability, at present something of the life yet buried from many. Also it is beautifully illustrated to many every day as they walk on earth and point out the rich hopes of meeting in this world of mysterious powers and being all in harmony like Christ the loving master who has revealed to this world. Now as there is many others to give their testimony to assure you of this blessed kingdom of love, I will close by saying that all the relatives of the family will each give a letter of a few words that you may know more fully and reveal family ties which I have not spoken of, being accidentally thrown into communication with my dear father, I have described what life on this side is, and what each may expect if they follow in the ways of truth.

My devoted mother, Mrs. Olive Bushnell Mason, also has given you her views as her perception and judgment are far different from mine, as no two are of the same mind or opinion no more than in the body. I am greatly indebted to many kind friends for their assistance in writing. And

may your highest hopes and aspirations be to live in harmony with all the earth, that through the intercession of the upper world you may be able to see bright visions of heaven and discern your loved ones as we have endeavored to present them in the true light and glory of spiritualism, many blessings this world bestows, and may you be in sweet communion with the heavenly hosts for ever and ever.

Yours Truly,

FRANK L. MASON.

NARRATIVE.

My dear friends and husband I am happy to give you a few words, relative to the grand spiritual life hereafter.

The hereafter is a great book. Never yet has any learned teacher been able to solve that problem to any satisfactory extent, and never will they succeed in the slightest form until they ask the invisible hand to correct the mistakes and blunders of ignorance during the past ages.

We are of a forgiving nature, one toward another in spirit life. But it seems to me when I gaze on the beautiful world of spiritual blessings, and see what a vast controlling power the world to-day possesses it makes me feel in a measure as if I could not come forth as one who was willing to battle for freedom and the great work of soul saving.

Could you look back from this side of life and see where you and I have been heedless, and continually throwing golden fruits away, you would only regret your being so idle and careless as to what knowledge you have of the hereafter.

Spiritual powers were not so well known in my days, but had I been better posted in this theory I should have been to-day past earths power, and now I am interceding for all humanity.

Ignorance to-day is worse than it has ever been, for where people are educated at this age with so much foolishness, they are worse than a person born of no mind or knowledge

of the present world, and are better fitted for spirit words. For they have nothing to educate. But on the opposite side where intelligent minds or people stumble and fall, we again claim its ignorance. God has shown all his works through ages in a plain simple manner, and yet all are standing on the street corners like those of old, and one saying to another, why are only a few blest in the spiritual powers.

We answer quickly my friends those whose hearts are open to the convictions of God shall receive the glory that awaits every child of God's family.

The hereafter stands near you, and to look at it and understand it is very clear to the inner being, and were it to open the door of ignorance to let the gentle breezes of the spirit land, cleanse it from all the mercenary diseases that it is subject to, it would soon become strong, beautified by the sunlight of love, into a perfect man or woman. It seems so simple to some that they will not spend time to investigate the subject.

But to those my advice is, not to trouble after their souls good at any price they may be offered for it, it is of so little importance, that if any knowledge is offered free, it does not follow that any for the souls good is taken by those who have gone before, and whose chief aim is to open a door to true happiness toward the life hereafter.

This power of communication with friends upon earth is not a mere fancy, and should be treated with the greatest sympathy, and not taken as sport for the moment. Reader have you any dear friends gone ahead who have no interest in your welfare? I answer that there is not one who has so little interest, that they come to make light of their eternal home, and to tell you that there is nothing to be done to fit you for a better life. • Even the murderer, who has been judged according to your laws of the world, has no desire to return and tell others go and commit more sin and

crime. But they sit in darkness and weep for those who come to bring words of comfort to their hungry souls. And when we tell them of the beauties we see they are frantic with grief to know that misery is their lot and many times those who have been killed by their hands are the first to minister good unto them, and forgive them that they may be permitted to advance higher or to see a glimpse of light out of their darkness.

The idea seems absurd. When we hear the churches and masses of people cry out, anything can be a spiritualist and as it is easy to become familiar with their philosophy you had better be one as it requires no confession, no creed, no nothing in fact is required and you can steal, rob, lie, or any other crime you may choose to commit, for you go to heaven anyway.

Oh! my dear, often do I look down and pity those who are so fickle minded and wonder, oh! child were God to call you home to-day, what seat could he or she expect to have? Why I would be chilled at the words so thoughtlessly spoken by some of the educated people relative to the same. Were they deprived of history, and all books for about one year, and let nature sing her sweet chants of heaven to them it would be one of the most sublime lessons ever known to the children of men, ignorance then would be dealt within its true manner, and all branches of natural philosophy would grow with a radiance never yet known. This life is one where every cord that links mankind together is imperfect, and can be seen in time to prevent an injury or accident which if its laws are closely observed and followed out it would cement every link so firmly that the hand of misery and death could not carry your fellow brothers away by the hundreds daily.

As time is precious, I will pass on rapidly giving you a view of all I can to-day, as this is a beautiful morning in

May I will continue in my work and give all that I can to the readers of spirit works, for I know that this little one will be read repeatedly and be held sacred to the grand and holy cause. The object of the spirit friends upon this side when they return is to lift the daily cares and trials for a moment as it were, and give the spiritual a glimpse of the sweet hereafter and warm all the earthly material, so that it can be externally moulded and fashioned into the beautiful images God has so earnestly desired.

To-day when I look around among the firesides, of business or private circles, and see the difference in countenances, I smile with joy to always be able to look quietly into the hearts of so many dear ones who yet journey in the stormy roads with life's people with a cheerful trusting hope of meeting those gone before them. And when disappointment and losses come in business, and the misfortunes which naturally arrives in everyday life, they still have the sweet hope of "meeting beyond the river in the sweet bye and bye," which is ever dear to the ear of those in the spirit world. Always skip lightly over the wrongs and think no evil of your fellow man and brother, and thereby you are growing in souls wealth and weaving the crown of glory and honor for yourself while on the other hand will be thorns of the deepest sting, woe, misery and contension will always follow until they repent and bring some offering for the wicked deeds and injuries done.

Yes brothers and sisters you should always keep the golden rule stamped before you, so that your eyes will read, and your heart be willing to proclaim it, then would this beautiful religion be known, and its wings of love hover over all poor sin sick souls.

My dear, to say that I rejoice to see the deep interest you manifest, and the assistance you give the cause will be but a slight expression of what I value it at, and language can-

not tell you what I have realized in my new life from your devotion. I have not been drawn back to earth by your recklessness as so many dear mothers and wives are to-day. You have assisted me in gaining a more sublime sphere for the simple reason, if you term it that, but I trust you do not, you have always went into a circle with thoughts of your family of the highest order, and always desiring the sweet faces, or the mild voices of so many dear ones, would manifest themselves, that it would give you new thoughts and brighten your journey through life. And should every member of humanity bear respect for us, and let everything else go aside, it would advance every dweller of the spirit world, and promote them as well in their daily walks, for it would not draw us to suffer with them, nor excite their sympathy so deeply that it hardens the heart for a time and the angel's messengers bear daily the same emblems of love so long before they can see what is in store for them, and when the friends get out of difficulties then they look for the messengers and see where they are in the wrong, and then suffer in a degree for the same.

So there is great necessity for the children in the earthly life to live it the best their abilities afford, and put always the best material in their life works that can be procured as the time will come sooner or later when the divine superintendant will examine all work, and if it bears the proper examination you will be advanced to the sweet summer land where the golden fruits are all in store, and the sweet gardens will be your dwelling places.

Some people who read this may say, I wonder if Eve has one garden? I will answer, not that sort of garden, and your spiritual good is more to be looked after than any garden, whether of Adam's time or Eve's.

Again as the opportunity is given do I return in this grand and noble cause. Since writing it has been noted

by many of our dear band the different opinions, people on earth cherish and hold so dear in regard to angels powers or missions you hear one say, why not all do the same, one you will say sings, another cries, another preaches to the people, and others are too foolish to be encouraged. Should I express myself so openly of the general conversation among the popular classes?

Now God never made all of one thing or set it into the world for operation for instance, he would not want all the soil tilled to raise wheat, or rye, nor potatoes or any vegetable, for then there would be no market, or demand for them. God has only given to man that which is essential for the country's good. He did not make the world to be all spiritualists, for then he surely would not need such an army of workers as he does to-day. Every one who has the power or voice for singing is not fitted to point out the beauties of your earth-land no more than your Henry Ward Beecher is to fill a vacancy around the throne of God to-day. And then when you read the history of the heavenly land carefully, or look into the why and wherefore's you will see there are cases which lead to effects in every portion of human history. So should we all be permitted to exercise every branch or line of God's high and holy duties, we would be as your land is to-day in a perfect jumble over the possibility of one getting all the chance to perform every wonder that our earthly friends ask or desire, and another be left to keep silence until some other chance were offered through some member yet in ignorance of heaven's glories to reveal itself.

Oh! dear reader it is well that you are not the sole judges of your religion, or some would receive justice, and others would be weighed down under the sinful lusts of their fellow man's faults.

Oh! when we look around this great plain, and see

how blinded the masses are I wonder at it, for it seems as if God had been so near at hand that every child of humanity could see him in nature and be able to read in the beauty and holiness he has intended them to. But like the people of three thousand years ago, they lead on and on into the same old path of hell and brimstone, until they become so smothered that it will take ages to get the disease out of their system so that the spiritual portions of the great book may be understood properly.

Now when this reaches some skeptic eyes to read they will say, this a pretty thing, to write about God's works ridiculous nonsense and folly. And so it may be but let me say this book will be read like some books of your holy bible to-day and the mind will wander back many times to the writing of the Mason family and call to the mind, many sweet truths of their hands and pen, and say as the light beams through some crack or crevice upon their souls, I must agree with them, although at that age I scoffed at the idea, so does the people go on turning leaves of the book of nature over in a heedless manner to the world for fear the inner life may let a ray of sunlight in upon the world that it will warm some tiny root that will spring forth and bloom in full perfection, if the angels are permitted to nourish and train it into the way it should go.

But my dear people the day is not far distant when you must acknowledge the alwise hand of nature, and learn to worship God the infinite and unchangeable father of all your beings, and who offers you his guardian hand of love.

He who is ever ready to place the balm of heaven upon every sin sick heart and bind you closer to heaven and its joys and blessings. He holds in his hand words for all the great family: I am the way, light and truth, and whoever will ask of the holy spirit in my name, shall receive the pearl of great price, that which men cannot take away.

Oh! loved ones stop for one moment and give this beautiful theory a thorough investigation, then in justice to yourself and God I ask, can you turn your backs and say, I could never believe it is from God, and can only say they are the works of the evil one? If so you have no knowledge of all God-like power, and are unfit for the holy angels to waste their time revealing to your soul heaven's joys.

But many believe them. I well know that many of my own kin cherish the dreadful thoughts that there is a chosen people in the sight of God, and the others must follow in the dreary road to perdition, if they prefer it. Oh! to those I would say, God pity you, think how many of your fathers and mothers to-day are willing to cast their children into a firey furnace, because they have offended or violated some of your daily teachings in boyhood, and has not been under the shepherd's protection or in other words, under the church roof, how many could answer yes, I would? Not one of you would be like the woman who sinned, and no stone could be thrown, and I assure you no fires kindled.

Now God's love is deeper than any father's or mother's, no matter where you find them, no matter how you think you could measure it, for he has said "come all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest" and again, "be not troubled, I go before, that where I am ye may be also." Now when he has said to all his children these beautiful sayings, why shall they be weary? Why do the teachers of church or creeds say that the "wrath of God is upon you." Oh! ye miserable degraded men or woman. No God will wipe away all tears and sorrow and bind and train them into straight and beautiful trees of wisdom, and there will be the first grave of the church elect.

What the missions of heaven are, is to save those who are cut down, and out of the church way and bid them

come into the fold of love and beauty. Creeds nor dogmas no longer hold my eyes closed nor my ears deaf from the fountain of truth, and my desire is to work in the field until I can say I have done that which the lord has given me to do, and can hear him say, "well done thou good and faithful servant" and pass on to a higher and more perfected state.

I hope all who are offered this golden fruit will not fail to reach their tiny hands forth to secure more. My dear friends you cannot eat too much. There are no christians, no mat-etr how pious they may be ever had an over dose; you never heard them cry unto God enough, but always acknowledging before the alter, their sinful ways, and begging to be redeemed through the blood of Jesus. I have reverence for all church people, but in order to illustrate the ways which the spiritualists take of the great church masses to-day, and we are more generous in receiving that class than they could be towards a spiritualist, as they are mere worms of the earth unworthy to be called by any religious name no matter how simple it might be.

Again do I take up the work with additional power and will soon be ready to give up to others who have just commenced in the great work of soul saving and give their views of human life. It gives us great courage to bring those upward and introduce them to powers on earth which we operate through and assist them in controlling earth's people that they may be able to work in the vineyard readily. It no dotbt seems strange to hear us say to work in our vineyard. To those who do not believe in the God so to speak are strangers to God and have no divine work to do.

But not so the spiritualist has greater work to do than any other society on the globe. They shoullder a responsibility for all children of earth and try and practice every good work which the men of churches fail to perform as

their creed does not embrace humanity, it goes no farther than the church people in its wanderings. My dear people one and all, my heart swells with rapture as I gaze upon your progress to-day you have done a good work, you have bound the good forces into such perfect harmony with this sphere that you may receive that crown which shall be changeless and unfading. God will bless you and receive you on flowery beds of ease into the eternal home where you will again come forth and the beautiful emblems of love through their great law of heaven and earth, which we depend upon for the elements to form our bands strong enough to break all opposing chains and enable us to present your friends in purity and beauty, and cheer the cold damp temple they leave behind.

Oh! we can gild the hours and paint life in its true colors and make it a paradise for earth's loved ones to dwell in the spirit shore. We have passed beyond that hymn of the old church. "O, Lord raise high our choirs over the hellish fires" and so many almighty liars deep down in hell and have gained a foothold where our hymns are raised high in chorus which all good angels desire to proclaim joy, peace and gladness to all in ignorance.

Sweeter to the ears of a God does such praises sound than all those who are tied by a hellish link and cherish to eternity with no knowledge of such a being as God. Why it chills every heart as they come forth ready to battle in the great work we have undertaken. And many times it would drive them back forever from the home where they once moved in equal rights and loveliness to foreign climes to work out their mission, and then promote the stranger who they have never known. But to return in love to repay us is the desire of all spirits, and if they are rejected they will not come with love and gladness to their earthly home.

As I will now close for others I will say to my friends and husband, I am so thankful for this opportunity that I cannot express myself, as every good work we bestow on earth so much do we gain in heaven. Although not a spiritualist when in the body, I hope you will bear gently the lessons of our experience, and hope to impart some lessons to those who are yet seeking this lovely truth that you may not be ushered in blindness and ignorance into the beautiful hereafter.

Think well as you read these lines, and remember when you wander far away, that I am with you. And in the days when sickness shall come upon you, heed well the lesson that I have penned you through the fingers of an entire stranger and say, God bless every ready worker of heaven and may the spirit of divine love and beauty bestow their love upon this dear little friend who has been the source of much joy and comfort to you, and I assure you it has lifted a heavy burden from my heart and I can rejoice that although simple as it seems to be it is a work few have completed, for the advancement of this world and ours.

This work was written by my devoted son and myself for the interest and satisfaction of a kind companion and loving father while in earth life.

Yours Truly, Mrs. Olive Bushnell Mason and her much loved son, Frank L. Mason. Ever cherish these lines as your devoted wife will this golden opportunity. Farewell my dear friends.

*COLLECTION OF LETTERS AND POEMS FROM THE MANY FRIENDS AND
RELATIVES OF THE FAMILY NOW IN SPIRIT LIFE.*

O, wonderous thoughts throughout the land,
Of earthly joys, of heavenly bands,
Which waits the coming of great days,
That angel hearts shall pour their lays
To bind the wounded hearts that bleed ;
And for the world we intercede !

O, make this earth in rapture swell,
For truth and justice doth compel
Each traveler yet beneath the skies,
To kneel in reverence as he dies,
To heavens powers of God divine,
And make his future bright to shine,
That when the thread of life is run
You look to him and say well done !

To him that guides the universe,
And heavenly showers all gloom disperse,
Of grave and death, of all such fear
That hovers around you feel so queer,
That time and seasons seem alike,
And always wrong instead of right ;
You wonder at the ways of life,
That it should be all envious strife.

O, many christian friends, I pray,
May hear these lines, wherein I say,
The God above is truth and joy,
And all his people have employ.

No book of science art or fame,
Is found wherein we can explain
This theory, great, sublime and true,
As nature doth present to you.

These lines so simple, rich and rare,
Speak words of life you may share,
Of many hills so steep and high
You often think its faint and die;
That God, the father of all earth,
Has many ills assigned from birth,
To chill the hopes you have inspired
Because your heart too much desired.

So oft we bring in twilight hours
The loved ones bright from mighty towers
To heal the sick, all gloom dispel,
And lead you from that prison cell,
To see the radiant light and love
In flowery lands where truth and love
Bear tidings great of God sublime
In fairy lands of distant climes.

Great wonders yet shall be revealed,
And many life-books yet unsealed,
Shall burst the bonds that holds them to
Those church-yard paths, they still pursue,
Till God the ruler, priest and king,
Shall come and in all nature sing,
Glory to that blessed throng
Who battled bravely through all wrong.

For truth and justice must prevail!
Now we the superstitious sail
Have rended by the awful blast
Of wind and hail, in days to last!
No more the life-boat here shall sink,
Because its launched upon the brink
Where angel's hands have bound secure
The life ropes firm on God, its sure.

O, God of love, and mercy send
That balm from heaven all hearts to mend,
Where ever weighed by countless cares,
Send their dear messengers who shares

The sadness, sorrows,—all that's dark,
 And bears to earth their gentle bark,
 To softly glide across the stream,
 Where all is joy and peace serene!

OLIVE BUSHNELL MASON.

Child of sorrow, and of woe;
 Angels gladly you will show,
 Loving flowers, fragrant, sweet,
 And a loving friend to greet.

Life is but an empty dream,
 And to you it oftentimes seems
 Dark and lonely paths to tread,
 As your loved ones are all dead.

Now they come these lines to write,
 Bidding you with us unite,
 Where the heavenly star above,
 Can its brilliance show in love.

Heavenly joys you little know;
 Rainbows fair we soon shall show
 From the darkest clouds of earth,
 There shall come to you a birth.

One that bears this emblem to
 Come ye all and not the few:
 God has chosen rich and poor
 You a place its true and sure.

Now upon this tablet fair,
 I a token have declared,
 God is love, and truth abides,
 And he from no precepts slides.

Earthly things shall fade and die,
 And to spirit worlds they fly.
 Come ye sinners great and small,
 Jesus welcomes one and all.

Fear not hell's dark dwelling here;
 God does not a devil rear;

Lo! he bids you all in love,
To that sacred throne above.

To the family bond or free,
Angels hand will twine for thee,
Lovely wreaths with fragrance sweet,
For the life that we complete.

Father, mother, all draw near,
You a word of light so clear:
Sisters, brothers, uncles, three,
Send their love to strengthen thee.

Now you ask me for my name;
I am not a one of fame,
With a face that holds a WEN,
I will gladly come again.

Many ones on earth shall know,
As you them these lines shall show;
And a mother gently bends,
You a word perchance may lend.

YOUR MOTHER.

Spirit World, Oct. 22, 1879.

My much loved Son:

As it has been a great pleasure to all our spirit friends to assist in their grand explanation of the spiritual spheres, I will with the utmost pleasure endorse this religion which you are so bountifully blest in upon your land. As far as tests are concerned, you well know that I am the same father to-day as in years gone by, and work with the same interests in a degree, as when in earth life, we are as near as ever to you to make known to you the revealings of eternity.

We bind together all the broken links of mankind and make them exceptable unto God and your earth, and cher-

ish the golden rule with all reverence. To some who are not familiar with the mysterious power through which the two worlds are connected and perfected, it may seem a ridiculous folly or false imagination that leads enlightened minds away from God, and maddens their brain and only finish them into perfect subjects for Dixmont or some other asylum suitable for such.

But dear friends whoever and wherever you are, I would say to you, you are mistaken and blinded by the seal of ignorance, and until the fingers of divine messengers comes to rend it and enable you to see clearly through the mists which darkly gather around your pathway, you cannot see clearly the earthly happiness you are all entitled to exercise and enjoy.

God as a living father hath prepared the way, "that where He is, there you may be also" and when you believe that God is with you, and in everything, how can this beautiful passage be recognized as a truth. And my reader and son are you not with him. I answer you he will lead you gently through the trials of this life, and prepare you a dwelling "not made with hand, but eternal in the heavens," and what are you to do, nothing is the answer from a thousand tongues throughout all your land. And upon this side the answer comes echoing through the air, we have a mission to perform to assist the great bountiful father above and the parents who have cared so tenderly for you from the cradle to the grave may be interested.

Remember that greater love hath no man, than your heavenly father for all the universal family, and will bear the scoffs and frowns of all the world as in the days of old for the sake of making his beautiful power visible to the eyes. What a blessed thought that both worlds can commune with each other and to hear the angels voices chant those beautiful hymns of welcome. To all who says, teach

me of heaven its beauty and holiness and blot out the stings of death and give us all strength to battle against the trials and ills of life, and to say, we will be a child of him who giveth the bread of everlasting life to all suffering people.

Well I must withdraw and hope to be able to give you another letter. May the blessing of him who passeth all understanding be with you my dear child and angels kiss the shadows from thy brow in days to come.

When father, mother, sister three;
Shall welcome you my son,
T'is then the work of angels hands
May wave and say well done!

Your Affectionate Father,
HALE MASON.

Spirit World Oct. 29, 1879.

Dear Brother:

Along the shores of earth you journey alone and with great thoughts wonder o'er heaven's grand plain. Yet not alone, say only unseen by the natural eye, but always visible to that lovely spiritual eye which leadeth you through pastures green and bring you out by the streams of living waters that shall quench all thirst. Remember thy sister has oftentimes visited you and with a gentle influence have blinded many times the eyes of disappointment and gloom, and made them again appear in a milder form. Giving you to understand that the loved ones were about you, and whatever you were engaged in we assisted you.

As so many grand suggestions have already been made I think there is nothing left undone for me to finish. Aunt Liddie has just written a beautiful letter to you, giving you that blessed assurance we all do of the great life hereafter. I will only say we are delighted to see you

seeking so earnestly the welfare of your spiritual home, as well as the natural dwelling upon earth. Oh! dearest brother life is beautiful in this heavenly land and would that all the children of earth were so happy it would paint the pictures of paradise upon every cheek and smiles of great joy, erase many sorrows. Bidding you good bye my brother until some future time.

Your Affectionate Sister,

M. MASON HOOKER.

To my dear Son-in-law, Levi Mason :

As I view this great world to-day, I am forced to acknowledge there has been unparalleled success in your great subordinate school for the past thirty-three years. I congratulate all dwellers upon this beautiful plain of progression. And may God's blessing bring that sweet angelic communion which shall gradually elevate and educate all primary departments of life acceptable to that infinite father who shall point out on all the maps of nature with various illustrations of the heavenly beauties yet unknown to any philosopher except it be a spiritualist.

Or in other words no learned men of the past or present has been so abundantly blest as your followers of to-day. No dewy showers has fallen upon that pearly seed of their spirits strong enough to burst that temple which has been so firmly banded through the evangelical meditations of so vast a majority in the world.

I have viewed the heavens and earth thoughterly and now present my testimony with countless thousands from the great throne of all elect.

I sincerely trust your laborers may secure due compensation upon this plain for all earnest endeavors to proclaim their beautiful phenomena, so called spirit communion be-

tween the two worlds, as God the universal ruler shall bestow that comfort and consolation which passeth all worldly visions.

Accept these lines as the compliments of myself and wife as a memorial of our unbounded love towards one who has devoted heart and soul to the communion of those who have taken up life in a more sublime degree.

And now I present these few lines to assist and endorse this great work so called spiritualism. Language cannot express my gratitude towards all the assisting elements, I have been favored with to-day in writing to you.

Yours Truly, Father Bushnell, to my affectionate son,
Levi Mason.

My Friends and Brother:

As I view the past, I see many mistaken thoughts relative to our future existence, and at times when trials had weighed down my soul, I have looked up to heaven and breathing gently the prayer. Oh! God of all love can'st thou restore health through faith unto me as I believe he had done in olden times, and still there came no relief until my spirit was released from all earthly bondage, then my prayers were answered.

So by sad experience in earth life, I was taught many lessons concerning God's high and holy laws which govern your lovely world, and as far as I have tasted of his wonderful grace upon this celestial shore.

I must acknowledge there has been countless mistakes of the past rectified, and being willing to receive all knowledge pertaining to spiritual laws and government, I am now able to present to the many ready hearers my testimony to assure and promote all that tends to elevate God's throne of wisdom.

Dear people I have viewed the heavenly landscape o'er and o'er, and seen the beauty which the masses has so firmly declared, and I am willing to bear the cross that I may receive that light and glory which every true child of God is entitled.

Oh! this is indeed a crown that shall bear "faith, hope and charity" throughout all eternity. Would that every chain in your world to-day was without a broken link it would gild all passing events with another charm and turn many wounded spirits into perfect forms of beauty. Then the God of all nations would sing the sweet chants of heaven throughout all seasons, and the lion and lamb quietly perform their mission in sweet peace.

Many thoughts arrive as I go on in this great progressive world, and as I advance in this divine work, I cannot create any desire to return. When there comes suffering to you that I may assist in serving the bonded spirit and bear it gently to that comforting father who speaks to all earth and says, "let not your heart be troubled, for where I am there ye may be also." Oh! what a beautiful saying, and if you believe God is in heaven you must all believe that all will be there sooner or later, as you are all children of his creation.

Did you ever stop and consider the saying, did he permit Satan to contradict his word in that holy book, by saying, there is a hell, and I am the mighty ruler. Be ye troubled, for great is the suffering God hath permitted me to bestow upon his chosen people. Now to me it seems absurd. To me it seems as if God was contradicting all law and become so inhuman, he was incapable of fulfilling his words where he says, I am love, truth and justice and full of compassion, and died that the world might be saved. My people did this emblem of life read to save a chosen people? No for he came to save that which was lost, and I claim

that the whole world was lost until he shed his blood upon the cross that through that love we might overcome all evil and thereby redeem a stricken world. And in the spiritual view of God and the divine revelation you are all saved from that devil which the superstitious views of man to-day has so fearfully pictured in distress and agony.

God has suffered every hour through the world on account of your sins, and sending his messengers to reclaim the fallen and lift them from the dust and ashes of earth, that they may hear his melodious voice calling you to view the future through the spiritual cristal which erases all false conceptions of christ and presents him as he is a true teacher.

This has been a wonderful season, the crowns have fallen from some, and royalty has gone to sleep among its countless thousands. All science is being aroused to the many strange and wonderful developments of the globe, and all powers to enforce the laws of your sabbath, seems fast coming into operation, but remember before you commence in this broad field, put aside those notions which lead you so blindly, put down this unnecessary pride which leads to curses daily. Then come forth in loving bands to strengthen and assist your people to point out causes which leads to such evil effects, and then you have a christ like spirit, and have taken the sins from the worlds face by the roots never again to spring forth at coming seasons.

Sabbath ordinances should be obeyed, but let all earth be educated in the right direction, first that they may understand the definition of that word, and then if love prevents these mistaken confidences in your minister, there shall be rewards ten fold. This my readers is christ as a true example, this is the mighty creator's law which he presented to govern and maintain order throughout the world. You can view the battle field, and for example, christ taught

peace, good will, not arrogance, as to-day is stamped on the force of earth, and create no wars, let peace be over your land, and God will bless your earnest endeavors and assist you through unseen powers, to blot out all our iniquities. And may the experience of one who has lately been called to labor in the field of spiritual blessing bear gently some seed to the world that shall take root and grow, that when they are ushered to this etherial home they may return as I do to-day, and their testimonys to all that is of so much importance I humbly ask all to investigate closely all powers and try them, and if they are of God they will cheerfully prove themselves and present the light and love I have endeavored to reveal to you. And if there is such a world as satans, here he will no doubt make known his laws through some of his agents in the world yet to be seen.

Yours Truly,

ELIZA BUSHNELL.

Spirit World, Oct. 29, 1879.

My Dear Nephew:

I avail myself of this golden opportunity of writing to you my opinions from this side of the river. To advance your ideas and thoughts relative to the great hereafter you are yet to be ushered into. Be not fearful of meeting that awful judgment day, as you are all judged daily, and your behaviour cronicled in the book of God never to be erased by the coming judgment, nor the devils great fires as it has been thought by us all more or less.

Instead of the great fires to burn all sinners forever, he has given you love and communion with the holy angels. And they are your many friends and relatives who form this band of ready workers to remove all that is a detriment and to teach you christianity in the way God has ordained

all those who desire to know him as he is. He is not the revengeful Father we all here supposed we should meet, and if we stood the great examination, pass on to the great white throne to shout hallelujahs forever more. We are "redeemed through the intercession of Christ our blessed saviour, and his precious blood cleansed all our iniquities." O, dear friends, God's blood no more than any other human being's ever heard of, could not wash the sins of the whole family out, or even one-half. You are cleansed from all sin and degradation when you pass from this life into the next. Then you commence a new life, born of God, the author of our religion and every good work. You then go on progressing in the great work of God.

He has placed you there above your common standpoint and given you the instruments to live and operate through; and in coming to earth again you may be weaned of the sins and lusts of the past and pass on to higher spheres, where you may be taught by holy messengers of light and glory, how they move on in their spiritual home, and bid them seek that which is higher and more beautiful.

Often do they see where they have done those things, they ought not to have done, and violated the laws of God.

They must then repent, or in other words be cleansed by the great and holy spirit of God, who is full of love and compassion for all.

So my many friends who cherish the blessed thoughts that christians generally do, that all outside the fold of God's cloak will be burned in that great fire or damned forever, will wake up in great surprise when some of these poor fellow creatures, who have died with such sins and crimes attached to their souls, such as murder, stealing from some members of the churches in life, and other deeds, for which they should have been sent to hell, regardless of judgment, or even taking into consideration that he or she might have

been a member of God's family instead of the devil's, and accidentally strayed away from his early teachings. Ah, well we may then hold counsel together and redeem him through praying that the devil may catch some who are not members of our flock, and give him the full extent of the law.

But you will meet the rich and poor, the high and low, and no doubt be welcomed into the pearly gates of heaven by those who you have wronged and spitefully treated, and who has been the thief and murderer, and yet never tasted death. But it may be a mistake, you may say their getting in. No mistakes occur on god's side, neither no changes in his designs no matter how great the man or small his deeds may appear to some great captain of a church.

God has fitted up his church that it may take black or white, green or yellow, no distinction in any class or people, but you will all be one grand family, and all be saved through love and purity, it stands for you to decide whether you will advance or fall back. Choose ye this day that portion of your lives, that you may be prepared to see your God of beauty, not upon that throne with countless harps tuned to sweet praises going up in harmony to him. For some time we look back to earth and wonder at the ease God is supposed to have, to ever hear all the notes uttered by the great masses on earth to him.

I am thankful to see you growing out of the old superstitions, and taking natural reasons of God and the hereafter, and can walk without fear of church or people, and acknowledge openly your beautiful religion in any place, and claim it will brighten the eye and give you a clearer knowledge of what heaven is, and what earth ought to be.

I thank our friend who affords you this unspeakable pleasure as well as myself, and hope in coming days to speak of points that will greatly interest you and guide you through

the journey of life, and at last land your frail bark upon the shores of true happiness.

Yours Truly,
SAMPSON MASON.

Spirit World, Oct. 27, 1879.

Dear Levi :

I am now able to write for myself. My eyes are no longer blinded. I can see the great beauty once more of your earth, where for a long season I was not permitted to behold the grass in the spring time nor the spring flowers, and thought it a great affliction oftentimes. But the God of heaven ordered it so, and I listened to the kind voices singing the sweet hymns and reading the blessed work of our saviour with great joy and interest. Thanking the great invisible power for my hearing and hoping sometime to be released from my eye troubles.

I can hold up my hands and say, thanks to the holy spirit who has given me a spiritual eye clear and free from all diseases as the eyes of your spectacles, or those of your own body, so that I can see to write you of this blessed kingdom and not be so much care as I used to be when you and I visited together.

You know of course how delightful my home is here and all our loved ones.

The lands here are not decked with grass and pebbles as yours are, neither the earth tilled the same, but it is tilled and cultivated by the kind wishes and good deeds to all children of men. You ask if we are employed, I answer yes, but as our work is not visible to the naked eye, some think it is impossible for God's elect to work, we are not so aristocratic as your world to-day and must labor yet unseen, in order to put down some of the ignorance and pride which has

broken men and country, and brought ruination upon the lands.

This seems quite strange that the upper world would not endorse your mode of living, let not one think for one instant, that we do not take as much pleasure in seeing our friends enjoy life as we ever did. But when you violate the laws of nature to such an extent, as many do we then go against you, and the results are a hastened death and a family perhaps left destitute of that kind care and protection which God your heavenly father has intended you to fill, and then the cry is, how dreadful it is that God has taken from our midst such a devout brother or sister.

Yes it is to lead others in the ways of life, and bid them to seek those laws of the great mother earth that shall protect them from all dangerous diseases, and sing the sweet lulabyes of heaven unto the hungry souls. Think for one moment, and I can assure you every affliction of earth in some degree, you have been the cause, and remember God sendeth not judgments as you would send them unto his children, should they violate your laws, for he bids all come in peace and beauty, and gives to each that crown which your good or evil works hath won for you, and says, repent and look to that blessed home so lovely in the heavens, and as he has tenderly written "come unto me" he will not change a particle, but receive you all according to the deeds done in the body. So live the best you can, and have charity for all knowing that we are liable subjects for sin in some form or other.

I am only thankful to the great spirit above for all I received on earth and feel it, such a sweet privilege to see to pen this to you. I hope from these few lines you may receive some good, and if the opportunity is offered me, I shall be greatly pleased to address you again.

Oh! dear children could you see,

Heavenly joys awaiting thee;
 Would you spiritualism shun,
 Spoke through father, mother, son?

No, you would not heedless be,
 When the angel hands you see,
 Bearing crowns of fadeless flowers,
 From those lovely, heavenly bowers.

It will drive away all care;
 Their sweet fragrance in the air,
 And shall bind the dreadful wound
 That awaits you at the tomb.

Love from heaven we gently bring,
 Bidding you to let us sing
 One sweet note of heavenly bliss,
 That may cheer the comfortless.

Your loving old aunt,
 LIDDIE MASON.

Grandpa M. and Henderson too,
 All have an object yet in view;
 Lo! they reach their aged hands
 From that flowery spirit land.

Soon the roses they will bring,
 And their aged lips shall sing,
 Sweeter praises from afar
 While the gates are yet ajar.

Many loved ones they shall lead
 Through their messengers with speed,
 To the realms of blest abode,
 To discharge their heavy load.

Grandpa, grandma, both unite
 In this noble strife for right
 Uncles, aunts, relations too,
 All find countless things to do.

Lo! the angels from above,
 Comes to sympathize and love,

Many children yet unknown,
To their great Redeemer's throne.

We must labor while its light,
To exclude that darkened sight :
Come dear Levi to the throne,
And acknowledge all you own.

Never fear the frowns you get,
All must in their lifetime yet,
Receive that blessed sacred truth,
We, should instill it from their youth.

The birds and flowers have seasons all,
Before they make that welcome call ;
And so with natures laws of love,
We bear them gently from above.

To those whose eyes are weak and blind,
Perchance they may some jewel find ;
And so it is from hour to hour ,
We speak from heavens own mighty towers.

To cheer the fallen help the weak,
That they the light and truth may seek ;
To let you know in sacred rhyme,
That here's the place and now's the time.

For all who yet in doubt and fear,
Assemble each a test to hear,
Of heavenly powers, of flowers fair,
And see how we the worlds compare.

Now where's the punishment you say ?
Perhaps if we should go away,
Without a word of that great day,
When you may hear your maker say.

Stand ye, and at this throne receive
The heavy blows that friends may give,
Because you not a hell have feared
And many gods and devils reared.

To crush the children of all earth,
Who not in fears have lived from birth,
To make their lives a pleasure too
By preaching heaven and hell to you,

Rise high all children here in life,
 That we may show you in the light,
 Bright jewels from a God of peace,
 That through the death he may release.

All cares and trials here below,
 Are subject more or less to show,
 That heavenly worlds may gently bend
 Their heads to earth a word to blend.

To cheer and guide each fallen one,
 And bid them evil ways to shun,
 And speak in spirit to every need,
 That holds within itself the seed.

Where flowers may root, and plants sublime
 May grow from spirits sunny clime,
 And bid you all the lessons learn;
 And from their powers you ne'r should turn.

Although it may be less than you
 Remember all the chosen few,
 How many times you often faint
 In rending superstitions veil!

Which if you would open wide
 The door of art and look inside :
 You find the lily and the rose
 Made up it may be said in prose.

But when you find them often rude,
 Remember they are not so crude,
 As many yet who still in life
 Are full of envy creed and strife.

Now friends, and loved ones all so near,
 Think not of death for all is clear;
 And heavenly gates are open wide,
 That you may softly through them glide.

How many loved ones yet unknown,
 Who stand by friends they claim their own;
 A mother's smile comes gently through,
 As we shall bid you all adieu.

From the Grand Parents.

WRITTEN FOR THE EDIFICATION OF OUR BROTHER, LEVI MASON, AND
ALL WHO DEEM THEMSELVES SPIRITUALISTS.

God of beauty, and of love,
Take now my heart as thine.
Administer to all it's wants,
From that sweet, sacred clime.

Teach all earth's people here below,
The way to live, in peace,
That when they come to worlds unknown,
All trouble then may cease.

Hold out thy glorious banners bright,
That all may see them clear,
And at that resurrection day,
They shall no judgment fear.

Then father, mother, wife and son,
Shall meet to part no more,
Where all is joy, and light, and love,
On Cannan's happy shore.

The blind shall see,
The dumb shall speak,
The deaf shall hear,
In words so sweet.

The glories of a heavenly home
For all, and not around that throne
Where God the great redeemer sits,
To judge the devil's from his own.

No subject for that devil's world
Is heard now, as in days of old,
For death of Christ redeemed you all,
If you believe that story told.

Dispair and gloom are laid aside,
In this the blessed future,
For heaven's doors are open wide
For you as well as Luther.

No creeds, or dogmas, can unite,
With spiritualism kindly,
For ignorance, pride, and haughtiness,
Have led them on too blindly.

I now a lesson you have taught,
 As God hath me intended,
 To show you proudly one and all,
 How heaven and earth are blended.

Good bye,

TECUMSECH.

Spirit world fifth step.

*TUSCALOOSA, CHIEF OF HIS TRIBE, HAS NAMED EACH PERSON SITTING
 IN THE CIRCLE, WHOM HE HAS CONTROLLED, AND HE HAS
 PUT THEIR NAMES IN THE FOLLOWING POEM:*

Red cheek hippo and violet blue,
 All have a work they n'er can do,
 Rosebud lily and bluebells three,
 All send a greeting back to thee.

Lo! the trailing arbutus brings
 In benevolence you a king,
 A japonica, bright and fair,
 Fragrant tube rose has its share.

Now with all your dear good friends,
 Remember that sweet charity blends
 With her feathers white and fair—
 Pinafore gets his equal share.

Come now children, while he is near,
 Blue sky now a word of cheer,
 And though sweet forget-me-nots
 Shall bear jewels in life's yacht.

Clear up all malice with your friends,
 That soon you may all flowers blend
 In boquets sweet, so rich and rare,
 That with your names you may compare.

A Washington lady makes her way,
 With callas sweet, her glorious sprays,
 Shall make the oleander bloom,
 As mignonette lends her sweet perfume.

She heals the wounds, all worldly mars,
 And seeks to comfort through those jars,
 Which tears the tiny little vine,

Wherein the moss-rose doth entwine.

Those emblems sweet for coming life,
She echoes softly through all strife;
Bear gently with each worldly care,
Helitrope comes per chaace may share.

The lot of many a drooping flower,
That lives in woodlands shaded bower,
Where the gentle breezes fail
To open up that deadened soil.

That when the golden dafodil
Shall come at Springtime's gentle will,
To lend her beauty, not perfume,
And lesson Winter's chilling gloom.

And point to all the tulips fair,
They to a portion must declare,
In coming seasons may present,
In flowery dress all compliments.

Which tend to all my favorites,
Its said quite true we are little mites,
Compared with mighty flowery cones.
Which deck those lovely foreign homes.

But now you see the tastes are strange;
I bring from the red man's hunting range,
Where sturdy oaks are chilled to day,
And brought to ruin, dust and clay.

Where trees have started firm and true,
And now seems drooping, as I view,
The hunting grounds of God divine,
In distant lands, in western climes.

So as I speak in words so clear,
That all the flowers may yet appear,
As plain as I have penciled these,
Old TUSKAS, heart is now at ease.

O, now dear friends I gladly come,
A word from your Geo. Washington,
To speak of state and nation all,
That though it be a token small.

With earnest hearts and purpose too!
 He toiled to make his country true,
 In peace and love to nations all,
 And not obey that trumpet call,

Which leads to countless brothers fall,
 And brings destruction on you all,
 Has come at last on black and white,
 You cannot banish it outright.

For weal and woe, are seen to-day,
 As Congress makes her grand display;
 While government and people stand,
 Afraid to reach their trembling hands.

To quench the fires they now have kindled,
 As the Nation's treasury they have swindled,
 In ways so smooth you n'er can judge,
 Until it gets into a smudge.

Then nations all in fear shall rise,
 As they shall wave before their eyes,
 In declaration dark and drear,
 The voice of war again shall hear.

As cannon's fire, and countless shells,
 Brave Lincoln now his country tells—
 Disturbance now in blood and gore,
 Shall sweep countless numbers more!

Then Congress all in houses fair,
 They too a portion of it share;
 And not the families all disbanded,
 As laws of peace have been unstranded.

The hand that moves, that regulates,
 That waits a fruitful action,
 For national laws to be enforced,
 Says Honorable General Jackson.

God bless the national flag so free;
 And may you in all honor be,
 With North, and South, and East, and West,
 And government war can be at rest.

GEORGE WASHINGTON,

Ex-President U. S.

THANKSGIVING ADDRESS.

On this lovely November morning comes thoughts of that national holiday, thanksgiving, every soul is preparing some token of remembrance which shall cling to your memory throughout all life.

As I return I can heartily assure you that the country was never in so much need of national services for her special welfare, as at the present. Your homes have become drained from all the sweet influences of the old long gone by presidents until now, with yearning hearts you raise your forces once more to connect the electric cord with heaven, and see what great God will bestow upon a stricken people in the coming new year.

O! may God the alwise ruler send his holy messengers through all opposing armies to fight that battle yet to come before the state, and nation will succeed in making congressional laws, and learning all people to walk and talk in peace together. Oh! may your prayers be upon the coming days be heard throughout all your land. May you be sincere, and with purpose true believing that as you assemble in the temples to lay all sin and crime before the almighty God that he may graciously pardon those of the past and give you spiritual strength to commence the new term of years with strong honest laborers, and be known by your good works, and deeds that as your lamps shall go out, you may be numbered among those old heroic stars of freedom, who has fought for truth and justice to prevail.

Oh! now there comes a time when every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall ask in penitence that God will mend the national law, that there may be some salvation for the growing generation. Royalty has fallen from their crowns, and are now sleeping in the lusts, and degrading habits, which has been their successors. Ask that God to break some of the iron bands which has ruined so many of your brothers to-day. Let your cries be met by the spirit

half way in behalf of the misery upon your land, and I can assure you that prosperity would be stamped on every flag which waves under the nation's discipline.

Look at the brave Lincoln and see if he sailed with flowers strewn under his feet to fade as your present leaders. Look through the history of his presidential career, and see honors chronicled through visits and travels to foreign lands. Can they be compared to the present situation of government? No, he obeyed his country's call, and endeavored to put down the rebellious cries; and let peace reign unbounded towards all, both north and south.

He was a father to his country and looked wisely, and at last suffered death for you all.

Oh! may you place an alter in the midst of every household, and offer a sacrifice for all the bountiful blessings of those past heroes who have taught you to wave your banners in peace and liberty, and may this national day live long in memory's sweet career, and bring you to see the errors of your present government. And may our prayers go out with you in behalf of the great destructive fires which has been kindling since the departure of your brave captain and leader Lincoln.

He toiled for country and civil improvement, he toiled to make you better, and place you upon an equal plain of righteousness, and never received the glory and honor you have showered on the chair since, and may you erase all that blotted lesson in the national books, and see clearly that showy dress and foreign honors of to-day can not place you in such a flourishing prosperity as he did at that time.

No future will bear the prosperous emblems as that of the past; and now dear people you need to offer more true prayers up to the infinite father before you can mend the broken chains into sweet communion.

Yours Truly,

GEN. SAMPSON MASON.

Springfield, Ohio, Nov. 27, 1879.

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